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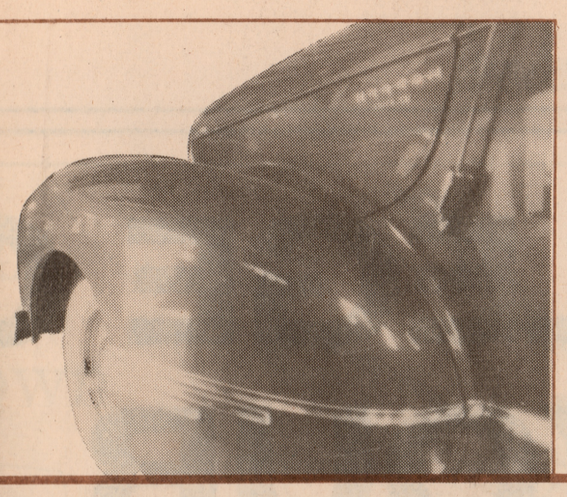
YPSILANTI

Eastern Echo
Welcome Week Edition '86
Neighbors

Old rides
Parts supplier turns curator
pg. 3



Art attacking
Grad deals art supplies on Cross
pg. 4

Mayor says city and EMU are 'divorced' neighbors

By Christopher J. Kozlowski
Editor in Chief

The relationship between Eastern Michigan University and the city of Ypsilanti is much like that of a married couple who over the years have grown apart and can no longer meet each other's needs, according to Ypsilanti Mayor Peter Murdock.

Describing the "town and gown" relationship as seemingly "divorced," Murdock said the two entities operate in separate spheres, ignoring each other until they need one another.

"And as long as nothing critical happens, that works fine," said Murdock.

But not everything always runs smoothly; as evidenced by the stumbling blocks Eastern ran into this summer concerning construction of a new College of Business facility in the downtown historic district of the city.

The University assumed its eminent domain powers would automatically close a street where construction is to occur. The city immediately claimed that Eastern needed to file a petition with the city for the closing, following city procedures just like anyone else.

"Up until recently, our relationship has been one of benign neglect, or non-existence.," said Murdock. "We would wave to each other and say 'hi,' but that is about it."

As with many relationships that deteriorate and break-up, primary concern revolves around financing, and the relationship between the city and the University is no different.

Ypsilanti and the Eastern have grown apart — literally, according to Murdock. Every square foot of land that the University buys-up within the city means a property tax loss for Ypsilanti. Because of Eastern's expansion, the city has no room to expand and increase its tax revenue base, according to Murdock.

The downtown building EMU plans to build would mean a tax loss to the city, but plans are in the works for the University to supplement the city's tax fund.

"Fifty years ago when we both were growing that was not a problem," said Murdock. "The city today has growth potential. It cannot expand."

Citing a long history of autonomy between the city and EMU, Murdock believes the two entities will always be at odds in some way, and he added that incidents in which the University ignores city procedures to get its way will not help the situation.

"Relationships are built on mutual benefit and mutual trust," said Murdock. "But that is hard to do when you are starting from scratch."

163 years young

City prospers despite Grove beginnings

By Jennifer E. Peterson
Features Editor

Despite possesing a name that those who are unfamiliar cannot spell, let alone pronounce, the city of Ypsilanti posseses a rich and interesting heritage.

According to the Ypsilanti area sesquicentennial booklet, published in 1973, Ypsilanti was originally a small settlement known as Woodruff's Grove. The year was 1823, and Benjamin Woodruff, one of the first settlers to come along, fought malaria epidemics and Indians to settle and prosper here.

In 1825, Judge August Brevoort Woodward of Detroit bought a piece of land near Woodruff's Grove and declared the area a genuine village. But the village needed a name.

At the time, according to the booklet, Americans were very interested in the Greek fight for independence from Turkey. Stories of the heroic acts of a Greek general named Demetrius Ypsilanti reached Judge Woodward — who then suggested the town be called Ypsilanti.

In 1831, the city's first schoolhouse was built by William Harwood. And in 1831, the first stage coach began transportation between Detroit and Ann Arbor, Jacksonburg and Tecumseh via Ypsilanti. Civilization was touching the small town.

The expansion of the railroad connected Ypsilanti to larger cities in 1838. It was called "The Central Road."

According to the booklet, schools were, at this time, supported by charities and built by interested citizens. Only the rich had their children educated.

Ypsilanti's first cemetery was located at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Summit. It was fenced until 1847. The second cemetery was laid out where Prospect Park now stands.

In 1849, Michigan State Normal College was started. It greatly affected the growth and development of the Ypsilanti area.

As the town grew, it seemed to divide into two rival neighborhoods. The East side had the railway station, and the West side had the post office.

By the 1850s, the jealousy between the two sides became so apparent that the East side seceded from the village and established "East Ypsilanti." Citizens elected their own president and board of trustees. In 1858, the two sides again united to once more

see **From**, page 3

Ypsi facts

- City area . . . . . 4.19 square miles
- Township area . . . . . 31.58 square miles
- City population . . . . . 24,176 (1985 est.)
- Ypsilanti Township population . . . 44,586
- City residents age 18-44 . 14,573 (1980)
- Residents age 18-44 (township) . 22,155

Top five area employers

- General Motors Hydra-matic . 15,500
- Ford Motor Co. . 5,800
- GM Assembly . 4,280
- St. Joseph Mercy Hospital . 2,900
- Eastern Michigan University . 1,570

Climate

- July average maximum . . . . . 85°
- July average minimum . . . . . 63°
- January average maximum . . . . . 20°
- January average minimum . . . . . 3°
- Average days exceeding 90° 13
- Average days below zero 3

Ypsilanti's historic housing

ECHO photo/Brad S. Cook

Living in Ypsilanti history

Ypsilanti is home to rich architecture, linking city to past

By Marjorie Kauth-Karjala
Echo Staff Writer

In addition to the many varieties of people and lifestyles found in Ypsilanti, the interested observer can find a great wealth of history and architectural style in the Ypsilanti historic district.

The district, which includes more than 20 types of architecture from the 1800s, encompasses Ypsilanti's downtown, Depot Town, the "Old East Side" and contiguous residential areas in between.

Eastern Michigan University's McKenny Union, Pierce, Welch, Starkweather, and Sherzer halls are a non-contiguous section of the district.

North Huron, between Michigan Avenue and Cross Street, boasts seven different styles of architecture, with many of the homes overlooking the Huron River.

Many of these homes were built by the wealthy citizens of Ypsilanti, according to Jane Bird, chairperson of the Historic District Commission.

One example is the Old Town Hall building, located at 300 N. Huron. It was originally used as a residence by Daniel Quirk, a founder of the Peninsular Paper mill, according to Bird. Quirk's building later became Ypsilanti's town hall, and currently, it houses private businesses.

The architecture of the building is Second Empire, with a flat roof and curved overhang, Bird said.

The oldest building in Ypsilanti, the Towner House, is also located on Huron Street. This building is now used as a children's museum.

The huge Hutchinson House, 600 N. River, which overlooks the Old East Side, was built at the turn of the century by Shelly Byron Hutchinson, who was a founder of the S&H Green Stamp Company.

The building is an "excellent example of Queen Anne with a strong Tudor influence," according to Bird. It is now used as headquarters for the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation

Other than the Hutchinson House, the Old East Side is made up of mostly "working family houses" which do not fall into a particular style category and are classified as "vernacular," according to Bird. Examples of these houses include 509 and 201 N. River.

Ypsilanti's historic district also includes S. Washington and S. Huron streets. Child and Family Service of Washtenaw, Inc., located at 118 S. Washington, was built in 1892.

The interior features a variety of hand-worked wood including maple, mahogany, birch and ash.

Bird said an example of Federal style architecture is a house at 202 S. Huron, which is owned by William Fennel, an EMU biology professor.

Seventy-five percent of the structures included within the city's historic district are listed in the National Register for Historic Places. The remaining 25 percent of the structures are recognized locally only.

According to Bird, placement on the national register is the "highest recognition that can be given."

However, the designation provides no restrictions concerning demolition or modernization unless the project would be using federal funds, Bird said.

Protection for historic buildings is "strongest from local ordinances," Bird said.

In 1978, according to Bird, "this community chose to pass an ordinance," which is enforced by the Historic District Commission, a department of city government, whose members are volunteer.

The ordinance is concerned with "every surface material" on the exterior of a building, Bird said. However, she said that the commission judges each situation individually.

see **Historic**, page 4

ECHO photo/Brad S. Cook

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Residents join effort to revive Depot Town

By Janet Asaro
Echo Staff Writer

When a group of business owners, town residents, and eager volunteers get together to perform a facelift on a derelict section of town, the results *can* be profitable — as well as enjoyable. And so begins the story of Depot Town — the heart of Ypsilanti's historic district.

For those who have visited the small shops and restaurants lining a few blocks in Ypsilanti, Depot Town may be a pleasant place to spend an afternoon or evening.

Establishments like Aubree's Saloon, which offers rhythm and blues music and fine food; Miller's Ice Cream; The Depot Exchange, an antique furniture striping and refinishing store; and a custome frame shop called the River Artworks are but a few of the shops that have helped Depot Town thrive in recent years.

But some of its residents remember a time when it was not quite as pleasant to reside in Depot Town.

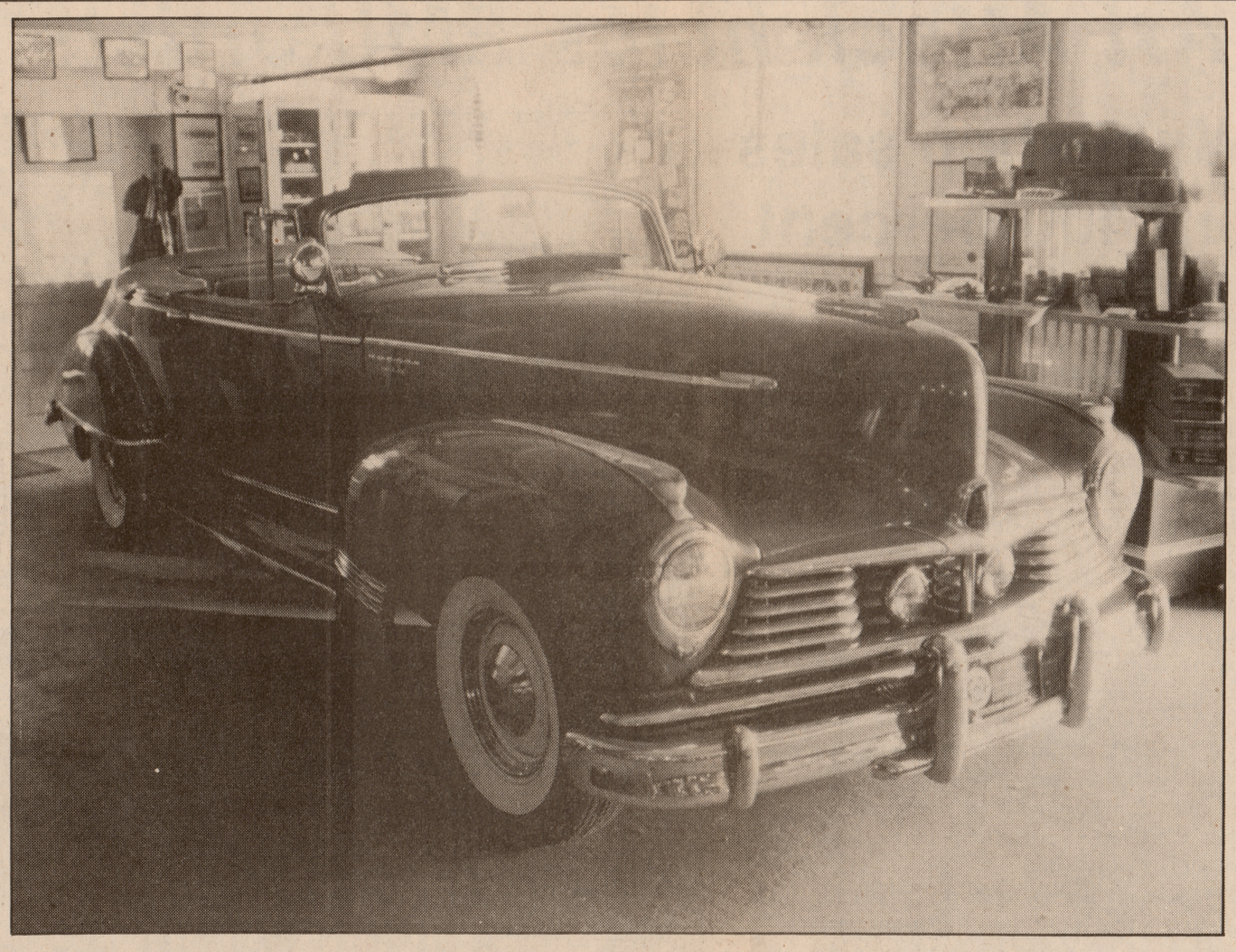
Several years ago, the entire area — then a group of boarded-up buildings, damaged by age and fire — was close to being bulldozed, according to Caroline McKeever, a building owner who described the neighborhood as "dangerous."

"Fifteen years ago, people who lived in town wouldn't let their children come near it," she said.

In fact, before she purchased the building in which she now lives on E. Cross Street, one wall in the structure had been blown-up by locals who were unhappy with the residents who lived there at the time.

"(Locals) dropped dynamite down the chimey to discourage the

see **Depot**, page 5

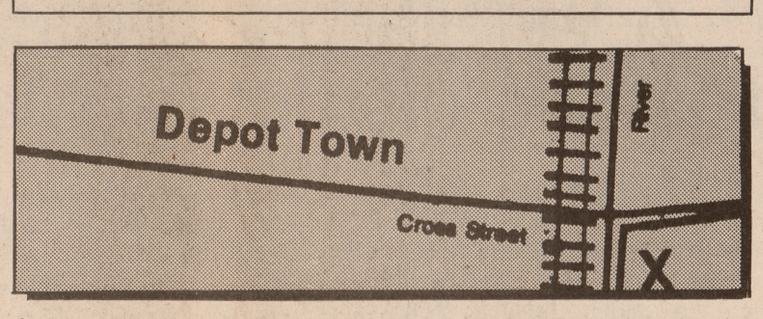


ECHO photo/Scott Bebout

When buying bigger was better...

Hudson parts shop houses car museum

Walking directions to Hudson's:
Take Cross Street east passed Huron and River streets. The building is located at 100 E. Cross Street.



By Catherine Kavanaugh
Echo Staff Writer

Hudson Motor Sales at 100 E. Cross in Depot Town is a combination parts supplier, mini-museum and club headquarters for owner's of Hudson automobiles nationwide.

Hudsons were manufactured between 1909 and 1957. The line was named after J.L. Hudson, whose nephew was one of the engineers that developed the car. The first Hudsons cost about $1,000. Their value in today's market reaches as high as $125,000.

Hudson Motor Sales owner Jack Miller supplies Hudson auto parts to dealers around the world — including Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Great Britain.

"There are few sources for Hudson parts in Great Britain," Miller said, "and as those sources (quickly) dry-up, the owners look for new ones. When they found me, it was like Christmas-time."

Beside supplying parts through his walk-in and mail order business, Miller's store is also a mini-museum. His private collection is in full-view to customers, complete with models, signs and posters.

The store is also headquarters for the HET (Hudson, Essex and Terraplane) Club. Miller said membership is worldwide, with Hudson owners in Turkey, and four in West Germany and France.

"There were 24 cars at the first club meeting in 1959," Miller said, "and recently up to 500 owners have

see **Hudson**, page 5

Fire station becomes hobbyist's showcase

By Susan Robinson
Echo Staff Writer

Just about everyone has some sort of hobby, whether it be collecting stamps or coins, baseball cards or comic books. But most hobbyists don't usually consider the simple storage of their hobby a major dilemma.

But seven years ago Tom Conway, a local plumbing contractor, had exactly that problem — where to store his hobby?

Conway said his antique car and truck collection quickly became too large for the 12-car garage at his Superior Township home.

Not wanting to annoy his neighbors by parking cars in his yard, Conway bought the old Ypsilanti Fire Station located at the corner of Cross and Huron to house his antiques.

With the help of a few friends and a bit of ingenuity, Conway has turned the fomerly neglected and decaying fire station into an antique museum.

The city of Ypsilanti helped Conway restore all the mechanical fixtures inside as well as the roof, wiring and plumbing.

Corporately named the Ypsilanti Antique Auto, Truck and Fire Museum, Conway's museum features two business cars, a "Woody Wagon," a fire truck and a gray car once driven, he said, by Eleanor Roosevelt.

"I was saving trucks before they had the value they have now," said Conway. "Antique car collectors don't buy and sell vehicles. We do sort of a swapping for old parts to complete the cars we alreay have."

In addition to cars and trucks, Conway has the largest collection of antique gas pumps — 60 total — in the Midwest.

Conway has an even larger collection of gas pump bulbs. These bubble-like, glass fixtures used to appear on top of gasoline pumps in the 1920s.

In addition, some years ago, Conway constructed a mock 1920s gas station, complete with storefront, porch, screen door, tin roof and gas pumps. The store front, built out of the fire station wall, has antique automobile accessories commonly found in the gas stations of the 1920s. There is even an old telephone booth, and two manequin attendants.

The museum is not open to the genral public. It is Conway's personal hobby and he often shares it with Boy Scout Troops, Girl Scout Troops and groups from local nursing homes free of charge. He has in the past declined offers from Ypsilanti, Flint, and the state of Michigan to commercialize his hobby.

"I feel this is my way of contributing to the community," said Conway, "I have a job, I don't need the money, so why should I make people pay?" He is always eager to "show off" his treasures and never turns interested visitors away.

Conway is president of the Ford and Mercury Restorers Club, a national club which hosts the largest car show in the state.

From mineral water to Ford Motor, Ypsilanti past varied

continued from page 1

became the city of Ypsilanti

Between 1873 and 1923, according to the booklet, Ypsilanti continued its growth. Businesses such as the Cornwell Paper Mill and the Ypsilanti Dress-Stay Manufacturing Company settled their homes in Ypsilanti.

The discovery of mineral water in 1882 spread Ypsilanti's name all over the country. The water was thought to have medicinal properties and a large sanitarium was built on the site. The water was often used to treat diseases. The mineral water bathhouses of Ypsilanti were said to rival those already famous in Mt. Clemens.

Patrick Roger Cleary came to Ypsilanti in 1883 and set up what was to become one of the first business and commercial schools. Now located on Washetnaw Avenue, the school's name today is Cleary College.

In 1893, disaster struck within the city's limits as a cyclone destroyed much of Ypsilanti. It traveled down Congress and Michigan avenues. Cleary College was all but destroyed and the town's opera house was left with only one wall.

Although suffering a small population loss in the early 1900s, Ypsilanti's business expanded soon after and the town once again began to prosper.

The first Beyer Hospital was dedicated in 1918. The hospital was owned and operated by the city and was funded by resident's tax dollars.

In 1931, Ford Motor Co. purchased property in Ypsilanti on Factory Street. The company also purchased Ypsilanti's powerhouse on adjoining land. The powerhouse was converted to supply electricity to manufacturing operations, and in 1932 the plant began making automotive parts.

In 1956 the Ford Rawsonville Plant was constructed. And today, the Rawsonville and Ypsilanti plants are two of the largest in the General Parts Division of the Ford Motor Co.

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Numbers to know

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- Beyer Memorial Hospital, 135 S.Prospect, 484-2200
- Catherine McAuley Health Center, 5301 E. Huron River Drive (Superior Township), 572-4025
- St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital, 5301 E. Huron River Drive, 572-3456

SAFETY:
- Emergency fire and police, 911
- Department of Public Safety, Parking Structure, 123 (emergency), 487-1222 (other)
- Ypsilanti Police Department, 505 W. Michigan Ave, 483-2311
- Washtenaw County Sheriff Department, 1165 Ecorse Road, 482-4600
- Ypsilanti Fire Department, 525 W. Michigan, 482-3311 (fire only); 482-9778 (business calls)

UTILITIES:
- Michigan Consolidated Gas Co., 4641 Washtenaw (Ann Arbor), 663-8531
- Detroit Edison, 64 N. Huron, 769-5880; customer services (all hours) 761-8716
- Michigan Bell Telephone Co., 592-9900
- Long-distance operators (take your pick!)

POST OFFICE
- U.S. Post Office, 108 S. Adams, 482-6905

BUSES
- Ann Arbor Transit Authority, 994-2895 (local service only)
- Ypsilanti bus station, 482-1350 (Greyhound, North Star and Shortway bus lines), W. Cross Street at Hamilton

DENTISTS
- Washtenaw District Dental Society (provides referrals and advice on dental problems), 483-4994

Art Attack helps EMU artists brush up

Ypsi shop sales up 400 percent in five years

ECHO photo/Scott Bebout

Art Attack employee Robin Evans and owner Lori Brandt.

For art majors attending Eastern, the Art Attack is an art supply store. But for store owner Lori Brandt, a former EMU art student, the store is a personal success.

Located at 731 W. Cross St., Art Attack has been serving the art supply needs of area commercial artists, graphic designers, and University personnel for more than five years. The store stocks hundreds of items — from painting and drafting materials to office supplies — and being located across the street from campus has become a convenient source of art materials.

According to Brandt, the convenience to serving the EMU community was the major reason for establishing the store.

Brandt, who graduated from Eastern in 1981, felt there was a need to obtain quality supplies quickly.

''Basically we try to stock supplies for the (art) classes — that is our most important purpose,'' she said.

Brandt, who still remains close to what is happening in Eastern's art department, often helps promote Eastern-sponsored events. She also credits many EMU art instructors with supporting her business.

''I was really surprised at how many people were willing to help...for no other reason than wanting to see something be successful,'' she said.

Brandt attributes much of the store's success to its policy of ''going out of its way to serve customers.'' Brandt said if her store does not carry a certain item that a customer requests, she will either order the product — or refer the customer to a place to find it.

Being sensitive to her customers' needs, said Brandt, is one way of retaining an edge on her competition.

And according to Brandt, competition was only one business concern she worried of when starting the business.

''I got the idea to open a store, but I didn't really think I'd be able to without a business background, she said.

After graduation she applied for a bank loan and went into business — at a time when three out of four business failed during their first year, she said.

Despite the odds against the business' success and Brandt's lack of business expertise, Art Attack is flourishing with a 400 percent increase in sales during the last five years.

— Janet Asaro

Historic district regulated with strict code laws

continued from page 1

Despite ordinance enforcement problems, including apprehension from potential historic district home owners of the ordinance, it has had a positive effect, Bird said.

She said that an informal survey conducted within the area south of Michigan Avenue revealed that every home sale in the area had been an ''improvement'' for the area.

Denis Schmiedeke, a local architect whose work includes 18-20 N. Washington, 119 N. Huron and the Cross Street Bridge, said that the historic district has brought people into the communtiy ''who would not otherwise consider (living in) Ypsilanti.''

However, Bird said, ''There are still realtors who steer people away,'' from historic areas.

Beverly Sikorski, president of the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors, said Ypsilanti's district is ''absolutely gorgeous'' and that she believes that the district helps to stabilize home values.

However, Stan Lund, Ypsilanti Realty broker, said if the district classification has any effect, it would be to decrease the value, because home buyers are wary of dealing with the commission in order to do work on their houses.

''Sometimes the commission is not that fast,'' in making decisions concerning home improvement.

According to Schmiedeke, the recent interest in historic preservation reflects a ''new sense of nationalism (and a desire to) cherish the well-built.'' He mentioned the 1976 USA bicentennial as a contributor to this form of nationalism.

Although nostalgia is part of the interest in history, Bird said this interest is also a ''recognition of a real need.''

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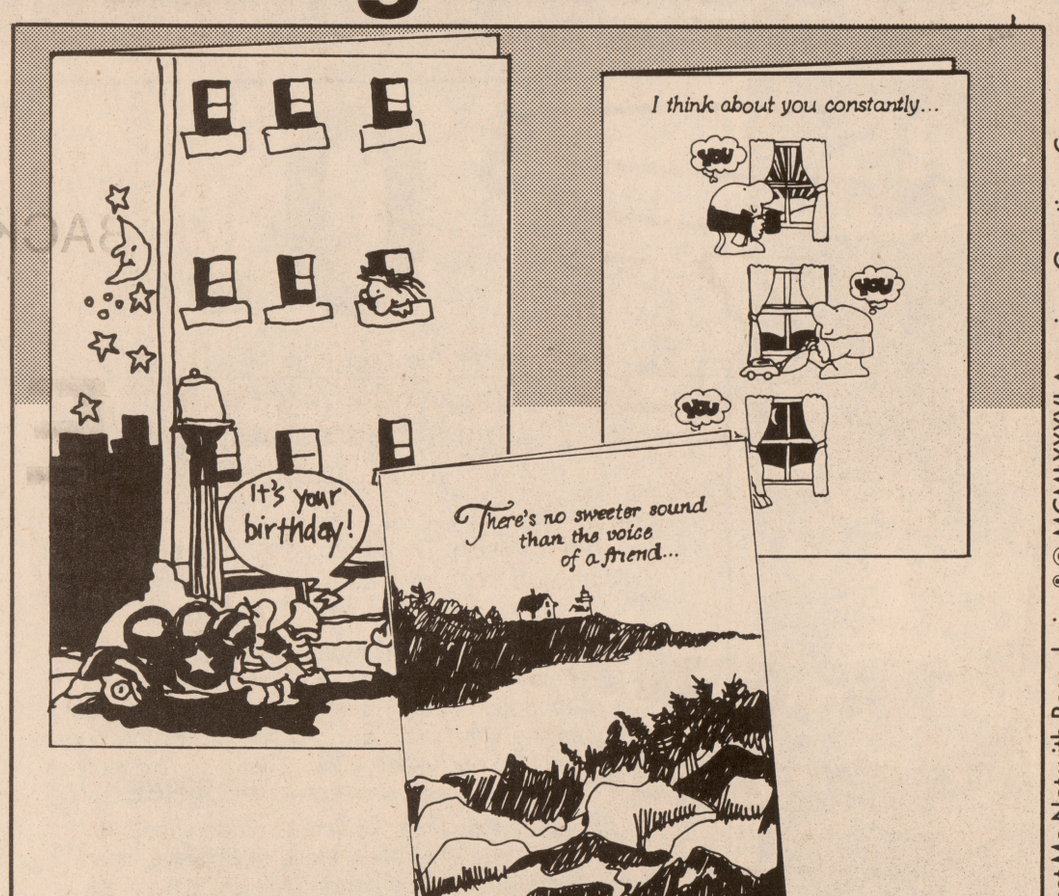

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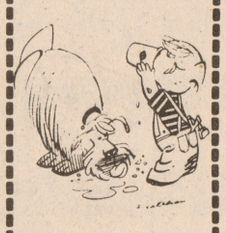

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Farmer's Market 'produces' results

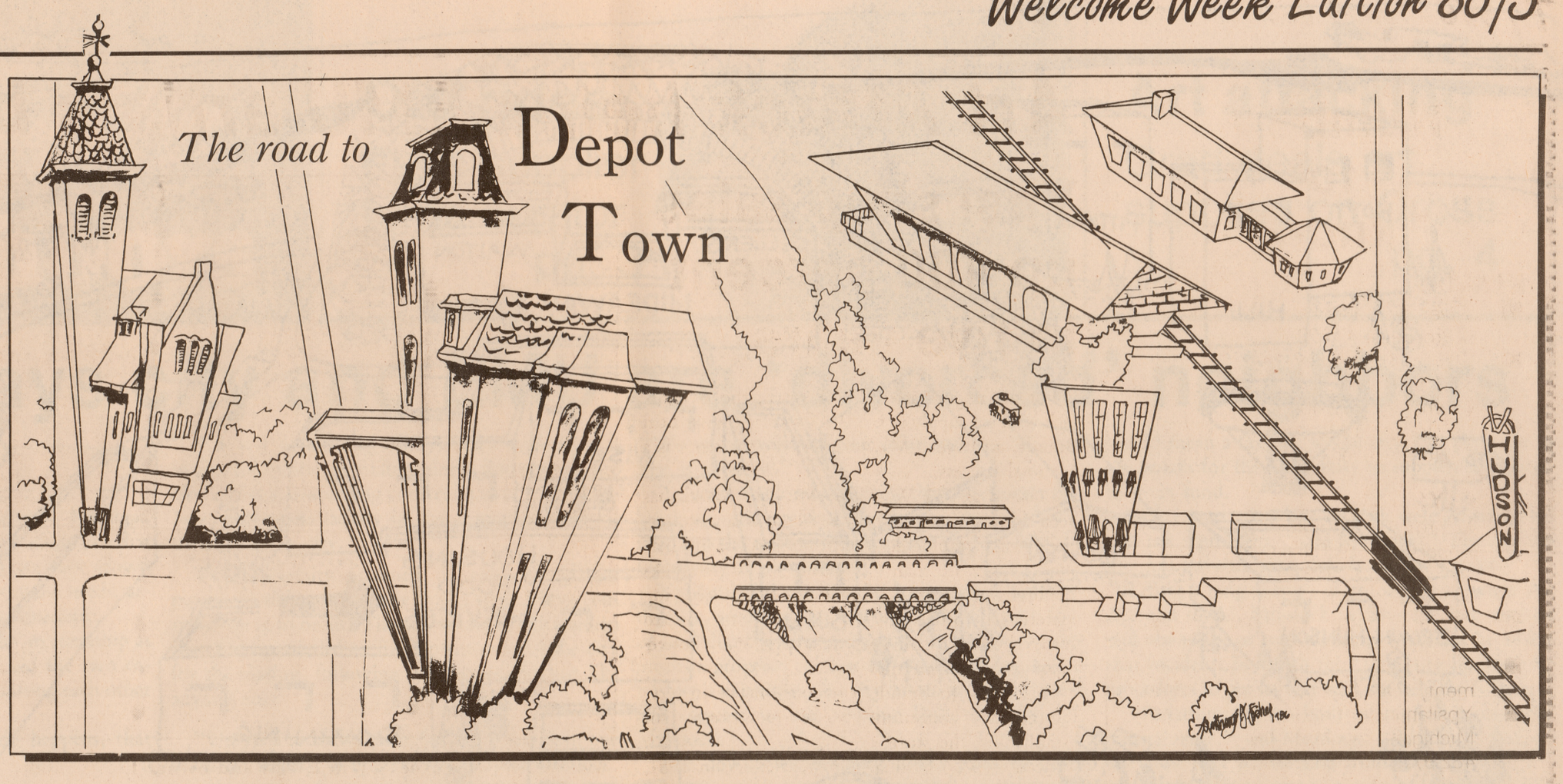
The Farmers' Market, located in Historic Depot Town, has become a real crowd pleaser since its inception in 1978.

The market, open to the public on every Wednesday and Saturday from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m., features homegrown fruits and vegetables from growers throughout not only the Ypsi-Arbor area, but the state as well.

By buying direct from the grower, the buyer not only saves money by cutting out shipping, packaging and all of the other things that make middle-men hated, but also are assured of the freshest products money can buy.

Although the market is open year round, summer is the busiest season, as the majority of harvests take place during this time.

For more information regarding the Farmers' Market and what produce is in season, give them a call at 483-1480.



Hudson classic car museum headquartered in Ypsilanti

continued from page 3

Miller said, "and recently up to 500 owners have participated."

Miller also edits and publishes the club magazine, *The White Triangle News,* six times a year.

Miller's father bought into the Hudson independent dealership in 1933 when it was on Michigan Avenue.

"It was a large building and the rent payments were big," Miller said. "Because of the depression, the dealership was moved here in 1933."

Hudson later merged with Nash, another independent dealership, and then merged again to form American Motors Company.

The biggest sales year for the car was 1928-29 when more than 300,000 were sold. Miller has one '29 Hudson on display in his store.

After World War II, the biggest sales year was 1949-50 when about 150,000 were sold.

Miller said he particularly remembers the Hudson in 1946.

"Auto makers switched to defense work during WWII. I remember the new '46 cars after the war. They were actually warmed over '42s, but it was a big event for people to finally see a new model."

Hudson Motor Sales is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

'Pocket of nostalgia'

Depot Town uses past to get ahead

continued from page 3

motorcycle gang living there," McKeever said.

Unhappy with the condition of the buildings, but seeing potential in the area, McKeever, along with other building owners, began the renovation process. And as the buildings themselves began to improve, so did the area as a whole.

"We have turned (Depot Town) around 180 degrees," said McKeever. "You can walk the streets anytime day or night now."

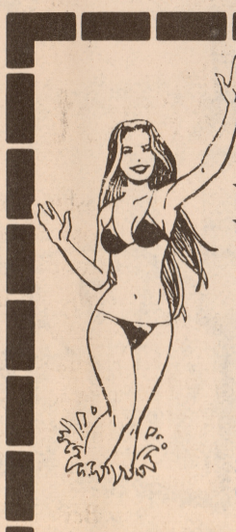
McKeever also credits the upgrading of the area for enticing renters and tourists — thus creating "an arena to do business."

Depot Town's current success is based not only on its successful business, but is due in large to successfully organized seasonal events.

Throughout the calendar year Depot Town is the site of several entertainment events, such as the Frog Island Tent Jazz Festival and the annual Jazz Competition (sponsored in cooperation with Eastern's own WEMU-FM). In recent years, Frog Island has drawn as much as 3,000-4,000 jazz fans.

McKeever said the merchants, owners, and residents who are members of the Depot Town Association — along with countless volunteers — have been the primary impetus in the development of Depot Town.

Through it all, their attitude has remained constant, said McKeever.



KEEP YOUR GOLDEN SUMMER TAN...
..WITH THE LOWEST PRICES THIS SEASON

★ 10 initial visits (reg. $50) $25
★ Six 20 min. maintenance sessions (reg. $36) $18

PERMANENT WAVE SPECIAL — $15 OFF
Reg. $40. Offer good with Sherry or Marie only.

the hair port

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* Offer good Sept. '86 only

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At the ARBORLAND CONSUMER MALL
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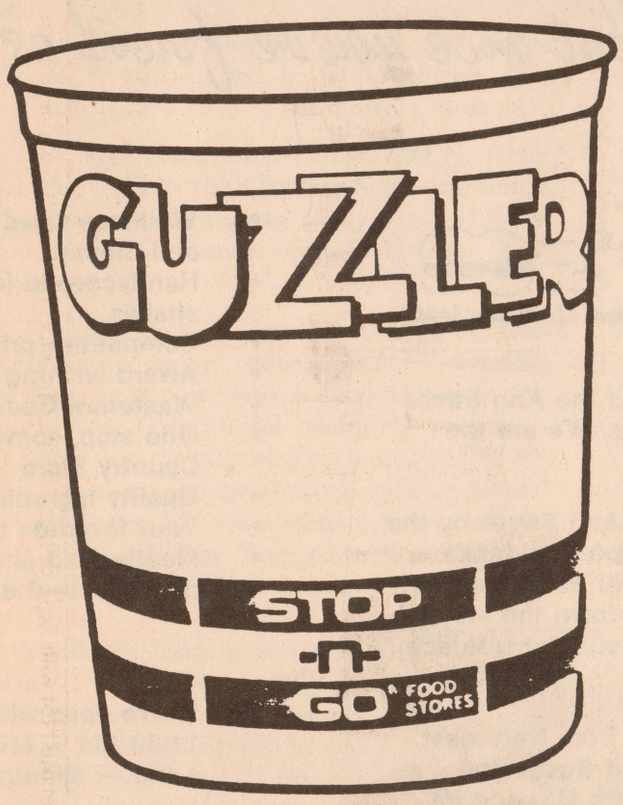

WELCOME BACK EMU!

FREE
32 oz. Guzzler*
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Frito Lay®
"BIG GRAB"
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FREE 32 oz. Guzzler
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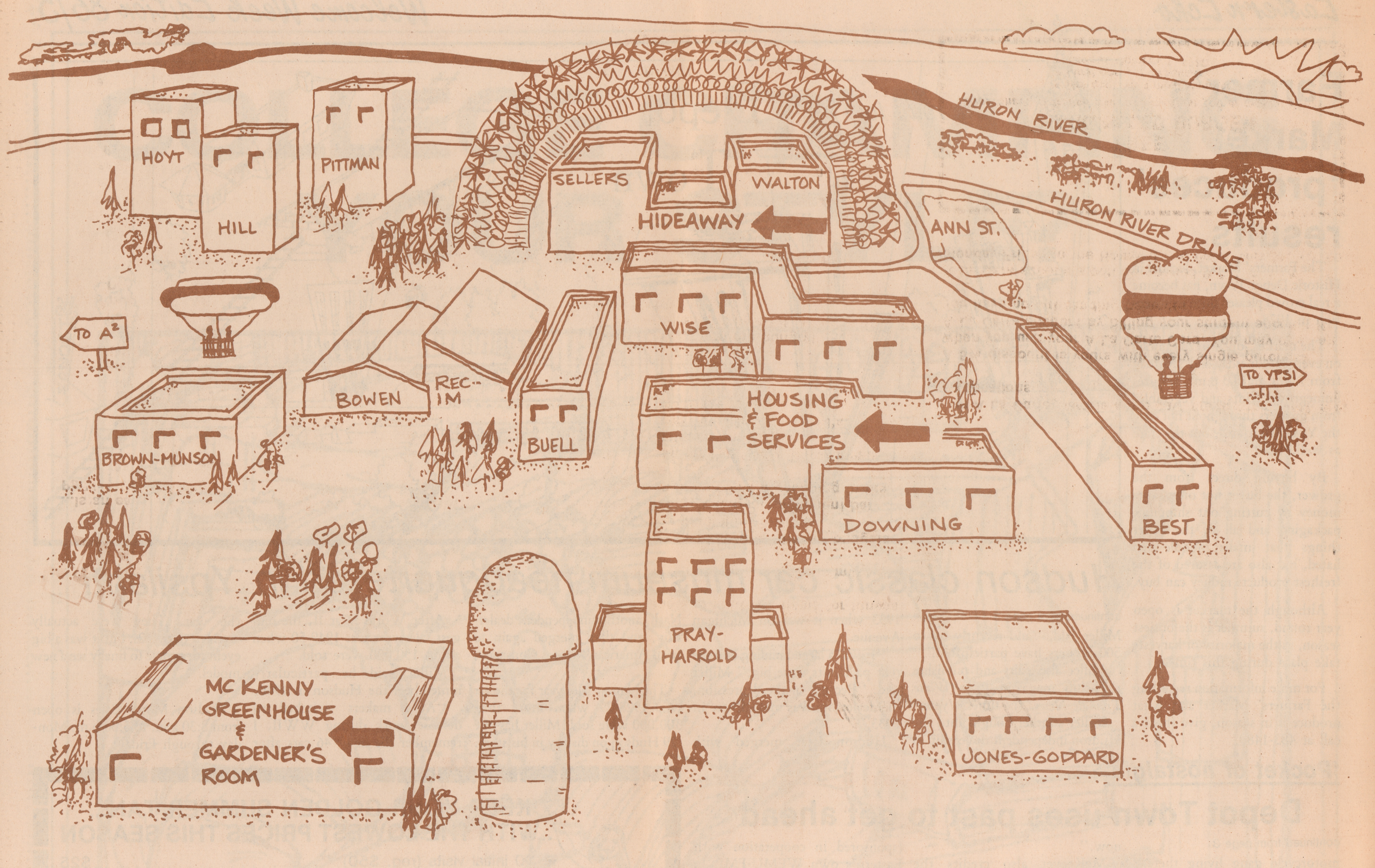
Frito Lay® "Big Grab" Offer

(Good until 9/17/86 at these locations:)

819 HURON STREET
1512 WASHTENAW AVE.



THE FIRST TIME IS ALWAYS THE HARDEST!

(but once you've found us, you'll be glad you did!)

THE HURON HIDEAWAY
On Campus Fast Food Connection

...is an easy walk from Pray-Harrold and the Ann Street Parking Lot. But you have to look for us. We are the Hideaway after all.

From Ann Street Parking Lot — Cross Ann Street by the Lutheran Church...walk in front of Walton Residence Hall *(tan brick)*. Wise Residence Hall will be to your left, Walton to your right. The Hideaway is down the stairs between Walton and Sellers Halls on your right. Notice the patio seating for nice weather.

From Pray-Harrold — Exit Pray-Harrold from Northeast doors near computer center. Cross Ford Street and enter Downing Residence Hall *(Really, its OK)* and immediately descent *(go down)* stairs. Precede straight past Housing and Food Services *(where you can get an A La Carte Card)* on your left and exit from Dining Commons Number 1. You are outside for 30 feet before you enter Wise Residence Hall. *(Really, its OK)* Jog right around the lounge and exit Wise. Cross Burton Street and angle to your left toward Walton Hall. The Hideaway is in the building between Walton and Sellers. Go down the stairs past the patio.

Once you've found us, you'll enjoy these BENEFITS

- **19 Grill Items-We have the menu you'll enjoy**
- **Chargrilling gives you the taste you deserve**
- **Wellness salad and light deli items for fitness and dieting**
- **Handscooped ice cream and famous milk shakes**
- **Competitive prices keyed to student budgets**
- **Award winning promotional events**
- **Wastenaw County's largest condiment bar**
- **One stop, convenience item shopping in the Country Store**
- **Quality ingrediants like Oscar Meyer meats**
- **Your favorites tunes on the jute box**
- **Meeting old and new friends at EMU's downtown—the Hideaway**

Plus...

- **We're open when you are hungry!**
  11:30 AM — Midnight, Mon-Fri
  4 PM — Midnight, Sat-Sun

THE GREENHOUSE

When you are on South Campus enjoy dining at the McKenny Greenhouse featuring:

- **Pizza by the slice**
- **Deli line**
- **New fixings bar**
- **Old fashion sodas**
- **Breakfast menu**
- **Six fruit juices daily**

The A La Carte Card is a pre-paid credit card useable at six locations.

A 5% discount is yours with every single purchase when you use your A La Carte Card. You may open an A La Carte account by billing your student account if you have no outstanding balances.

A La Care accounts can be opened 9 AM to 4 PM, Monday-Friday in the Housing and Food Services Office.

COUPON

FREE
CHARGRILLED BURGER
(W/purchase of french fries and medium pop at regular price)

- **Not good with meal transfer**
- **Limit one per customer**
- **Expires October 1, 1986**